

Basuto are told that anyone who is friendly towards South Africa is a social outcast. On one occasion a Cabinet Minister was so insulted when he stood up for South Africa that he felt obliged to leave the party.

The American Consul in Lesotho is reported as having told members of the Cabinet that as long as they remain friendly towards South Africa, and make public utterances which put the Republic in a favourable light, the United States would see to it that they do not get the Western aid that they have asked for."

My Government has no knowledge whatever of any incidents of the kind alleged in this article and it is unfortunate that this newspaper has conveyed the implication that we can so easily be bribed and bought by drinks at cocktail parties and be influenced to receive or not receive aid from any particular country. If this is in fact what is implied in this article, then let me say that those responsible for the article have been grossly misguided.

As for what appeared in this newspaper regarding the planting of spies in the key posts of Government departments, here again the Government has no knowledge of the planting of any such spies in the Government departments, but it is a known fact that all governments - especially the stronger ones - are anxious to spy on weaker governments, and this we are watching very closely.

All the governments giving aid to my Government, either technical or financial, do so in response to my requests to them, in the same manner as the private organizations